

In re Patent Application of:
JONGEBLOED, KENNETH WILLIAM
Serial No. 10/755,246
Filed: JANUARY 10, 2004

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-17 and add the following new claims:

18. (New) A supply chain management system comprising:

at least one identification system carried by a vehicle to identify a vehicle asset that is in need of replacement, the vehicle being identified by a predetermined serial number, said at least one identification system comprising a transmitter for transmitting a vehicle asset failure signal;

at least one requisition system spaced-apart from and in communication with said at least one identification system, said at least one requisition system comprising a receiver for receiving the vehicle asset failure signal, and a plurality of modules in communication with one another for autonomically locating, ordering, delivering and replenishing the vehicle asset in need of replacement with a replacement vehicle asset responsive to the vehicle asset failure signal.

19. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein one of said plurality of modules is a total asset visibility module for locating the replacement vehicle asset, and for determining availability, condition, and mobility of the replacement vehicle asset.

20. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein said plurality of modules locate, order, deliver and replenish the vehicle asset in need of replacement responsive to authorization manually provided by a user to thereby define a semi-autonomic mode of said supply chain management system.

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21. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 further comprising a configuration management database having vehicle asset specification information stored thereon.

22. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein one of said plurality of modules is a retrograde module comprising a source, maintainability, and recoverability code for determining whether the vehicle asset in need of replacement is repairable; and wherein said retrograde module determines a place of return of a repairable vehicle asset.

23. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein one of said plurality of modules is a routing module for identifying and selecting at least one of a timeliest delivery of the replacement vehicle asset and a cost effective delivery of the replacement vehicle asset.

24. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein one of said plurality of modules is a records and tools module for monitoring transactions of said at least one requisition system.

25. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein one of said plurality of modules is a surge priority ranking module for monitoring and determining priority of delivery of the replacement vehicle asset to a predetermined vehicle based on at least one of a peacetime and wartime necessity.

26. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein said at least one requisition system comprises at least one alarm that is activated when the

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replacement vehicle asset cannot be located to thereby allow for manual intervention.

27. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 further comprising a logistic support analysis record having a database to compare the replacement vehicle asset with the predetermined serial number of the vehicle to ensure compatibility of the replacement vehicle asset.

28. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein said vehicle is an aircraft; wherein said predetermined serial number is an aircraft tail number; wherein said vehicle asset in need of replacement is an aircraft asset in need of replacement; and wherein said replacement vehicle asset is a replacement aircraft asset.

29. (New) A supply chain management system according to Claim 18 wherein said identification system is at least one of a diagnostic system for identifying a vehicle asset that has failed, and a prognostic system for predicting failure of a vehicle asset.

30. (New) A method of replacing an aircraft asset, the method comprising:

identifying the aircraft asset in need of replacement on an aircraft, the aircraft having an aircraft tail number to identify the aircraft;

transmitting an aircraft asset failure signal indicating the aircraft asset in need of replacement; and

receiving the aircraft asset failure signal, and autonomically locating, ordering, delivering and replenishing the aircraft asset with a replacement aircraft asset

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responsive to the aircraft asset failure signal using a plurality of modules in communication with one another.

31. (New) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising locating the replacement aircraft asset, and determining availability, condition, and mobility of the replacement aircraft asset using a total asset visibility module.

32. (New) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising determining whether the aircraft asset in need of replacement is repairable; and further comprising determining a place of return of a repairable aircraft asset using a retrograde module.

33. (New) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising selecting at least one of a timeliest delivery of the replacement aircraft asset and the most cost effective delivery of the replacement aircraft asset using a routing module.

34. (New) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising monitoring transactions using a records and tools module.

35. (New) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising monitoring and determining priority of delivery of the replacement aircraft asset based on at least one of a peacetime and wartime necessity using a surge priority ranking module.

36. (New) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising sounding an alarm when the replacement aircraft asset cannot be located to thereby allow for manual intervention.

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37. (New) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising comparing the replacement aircraft asset with the tail number of the aircraft to ensure compatibility of the replacement aircraft asset.